APR 3 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in fe Application of: Neely, et al.)

Serial No.: 09/165,034

Filed: October 1, 1998

Title: Differential Basis Weight

For Nonwoven Webs

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 1771

Examiner: Jeremy R. Pierce

Our Ref. No.: KCX-85-RCE (13195)

Our Account No.: 04-1403

41803

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

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Responsive to the Office Action dated December 10, 2002, please amend the above captioned application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 13.

Please amend claims 1, 12, 16, 27 and 35 to read as follows (marked changes included as Appendix A):

1. (Amended) A nonwoven web made from fibers, the fibers comprising thermoplastic fibers, said nonwoven web having a first end and a second and opposite end, said nonwoven web defining a first area having a first basis weight and a second area having a second basis weight being located on said nonwoven web according to a predetermined pattern, said first basis weight being at least about 1.5 times greater than said second basis weight, said first area comprising from about 25% to about 75% of said nonwoven web, the web being compressed and thermally bonded together.

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01 FC:1251 110.00 DP 04/16/2003 ZJUHAR1 00000079 041403 091650

02 FC:1202

10.00 CH

8.00 DP

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